it down. Talcher unit of the Fertiliser Corporation is coal-based. I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is thinking of revamping it or reorganising the management of that unit. Recently the Fertiliser Corporation of India has sanctioned some crores of rupees to revamp the Ramagundam plant. I would like to know whether this principal will be applicable to the fertiliser unit of Talcher as well.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: We are very much concerned about the Talcher unit in Orissa. Both Ramagundam and Talcher are coal-based units. We have not sanctioned any amount for Ramagundam alone. While trying to restructure it we will definitely keep the Talcher unit also in mind.

Import of certain drugs

*303. SHRI R. S. NAIK:†
SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Valporic Acid, Tolnafate, Cefatoxion Sodium, Dipyridamol, Chloropromazine, Trifluoperazine are being imported by major formulators or their associates at much higher prices than being imported by other companies;

(b) what are the names of the companies who are importing these drugs from their principals or their associates and what was the average price of import during the year 1990 and 1991;

(c) what was the price of each drug on which the prices of finished medicines were fixed;

(d) whether it is a fact that under the provision of Drug Policy, 1986 drug companies have to provide details of imports from their principals or their associates within one month of imports; and

(e) if so, what are the details of each importer of these drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Company-wise imports of drugs are not being monitored. Average cif value of these drugs, to the extent available, for the year 1989-90 and 1990-91 is given below :

Name of the Bulk Drug	Average C.I.F. 1989-90	Value (Rs./Kg.) 1990-91
1. Valporic Acid	803	905
2. Tolnaftate	19801	22466
3. Cefatoxim Sodium	24115	25425
4. Dipyridamole	1407	1346
5. Chlorpromazine Hcl	566	612
6. Trifluporazine Hcl	2172	2502

†The question was actually asked on floor of the House by Shri R. S. Naik.

(c) An average landed price, based on the data given by DGHS, is adopted for fixing the prices of finished medicines based on imported bulk drugs. In the existing prices of finished medicines the relevant average landed price taken into consideration is as under:

	Name of Bulk Drug	Average landed price (Rs./kg.) adopted (month-year)	
1.	Valporic Acid	1254.57	(Feb. 89)
2.	Tolnaftate	33872.90	(March, 90)
3.	Cetatoxim WSodium	Non-scheduled bulk drug outside price control	
4.	Dipyridamole	3207.84	(July, 89)
5.	Chlorpromazine Hcl	1228.06	(March, 90.)
6.	Triluptrazine Hcl	4265.67	(March, 90)

(d) and (e) This provision in the Drug Policy, 1986 was in the context of implementing a Phased Manufacturing Programme (PMP). In this regard, the attention of the companies was drawn through their associations. However, the response has not been adequate. As already answered in Rajya Sabha Starred Question No. 101 on 28-11-1991, in view of the provisions of Section 12(2) of the I(D&R) Act, it was also found that there was no possibility of imposing the phased manufacturing programme in respect of a licence for which effective steps had already been taken. As such the data regarding import from principals or associate companies abroad would not have served any useful purpose for implementing PMP. However, in the case of all new proposals, the stage of manufacture was clearly specified in accordance with the report of the PMP Committee and the Customs authorities were advised to permit imports accordingly.

SHRI R. S. NAIK: Mr. Chairman, Sir, part (a) of my question pertains to some of the raw materials of drugs which are being imported by major formulators and their associates at much higher prices than other companies. On principle the Government should not allow import of medicines at very high prices based on over-invoiced price. It is the duty of the Government to check over-invoicing and prevent loss of foreign exchange.

In reply to Unstarred Question No. 463 in the Rajya Sabha on the 31st December, 1990 and subsequently Q. No. 759 on the 14th May, 1991, it has been admitted that a number of complaints have been received alleging over-invoicing in imports and other irregularities in the purchase of drugs. The Ministry of Finance has been requested to examine the matter. In this connection, I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken against these complaints. May I know from the Minister whether matter has been taken at the Secretary or Minister's level? If so, what is the outcome.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in a year about 10,000 consignments do come to India at different ports, Madras, Bombay and Calcutta, and sometimes to Delhi via these ports. There are about 50 bulk drug manufacturers and hundred bulk drugs are imported from a basic stage and 250 bulk drugs are imported from the intermediate stage. On the 28th November, there was a discussion in the Rajya Sabha, on this subject. I have checked up the matter and found some specific complaints. I have called for the report from the Revenue Intelligence Department. The moment I get the information from them, we will take quick action.

SHRI R. S. NAIK: My second supplementary is, may I know from the Minister whether it is a fact that multinational drug companies are importing some of the materials at a higher rate, for example, Cefatoxin Sodium is being imported at Rs. 1700 per kg. whereas Indian companies are importing it at Rs. 1100 per kg.? It clearly shows that the country is losing valuable foreign exchange; and the consumer has to pay higher prices. May I know from the Minister what steps he would take to curb such anti-national activities?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, today we need good quality of medicines. We have to look after the good health of the industry also and both have to be balanced. Today we are importing Rs. 600 crores worth of drugs. The total turn-over of the drug industry is about Rs. 400 only. We have to improve the health of this industry. The present Industrial Policy is such that we have to look after the industry also. If we do not look after the industry and if we go on harassing these people over petty complaints, there will be a lot of problems. If the Member has got any specific complaint, he can give it to us and we will look into it without any fear or favour. We will also try to call for the information from the Revenue Intelligence Department. We will not hesitate to take strict action.

SHRI SOM PAL: what about the specific drug which is being imported at 50 per cent more than the prescribed price?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: I will examine it.

श्रीमती सत्या बहिन सभापति महोदय, मैं यह जानना चाहती हूं कि डायरेक्टर जनरल हैल्थ सर्विसेज ने और स्वास्थ्य विभाग ने जो आयात मूल्यों का ब्यौरा उपलब्ध कराया था, क्या उस ब्यौरे का वेरिफ़िकेशन किया जाता है क्या नहीं ? इसके अलावा उसमें इम्पोर्टेड प्राइस, क्वालिटी और सोर्स आफ़ इम्पोर्ट, इन बातों का ध्यान रखा जाता है या नहीं ?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, the Director General of Health Services and his own officers at different ports particularly Madras, Bombay and Calcutta supply the inormation to the Drugs Controller o India. In turn, the Drug Controller of India gives the information to the Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices. We take recommendations always from the BICP. After strict scurtiny from the Department, we give the pricing for any drug. If any Member has got any complaint about any manufacturer, kindly bring it to our notice. We will take strict action.

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने बड़ी दृढ़ता के साथ कहा है कि उद्योगों की रक्षा मुझको करनी है, लेकिन जहां तक इस प्रश्न का संबंध है आप उद्योग की रक्षा तो करें लेकिन देश में जो आज फ़ारेन एक्सचेंज रिजर्व की कमी है, उसकी ओर भी ध्यान दें । यह मेरा उनसे पहला निवेदन है ।

श्री सभापति : प्रश्न पूछिए ।

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : इस प्रश्न का सम्बन्ध जो देश में फ़ारेन एक्सचेंज की कमी है और उपभोक्ताओं को जो अधिक कीमत देनी पड़ रही है, उससे जुड़ा हुआ है । एक तो हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था पर यह आघात हो रहा है, एक ओर तो हमारा फारेन एक्सचेंज मल्टीनेशनल कंपनियों द्वारा अवैध रूप से जमा हो रहा है और दूसरी ओर इनकी जो कीमतें तय की जाती हैं, उससे उपभोक्ताओं को अधिक कीमत देनी पड़ती है ।

श्री सभापति : आपका प्रश्न क्या है ?

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : मैं प्रश्न पर आता आता हूं । माननीय मंत्री जी को मैं बता रहा हूं कि यह दुतरफ़ा जो छुरी है, दोनों तरफ़ जो . . .

श्री सभापति : उन्हें इसका बहुत ध्यान है ।

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि जिन दवाइयों के नाम प्रश्न में ... (व्यवधान) ... छुरी, छुरी चल रही है, चाकू चल रहा है दो तरफा चाकू चल रहा है।

श्री सभापति : आप समय पर चाकू न चलायें।

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : मेरा प्रश्न यह है कि जिन दवाओं का नाम उल्लिखित है तो उन दवाइयों को बनाने वाली जो मल्टीनेशनल कंपनियां हैं, अगर मंत्री महोदय को मालूम नहीं है तो मैं सदन के बेनिफिट के लिए बता देना चाहूंगा कि ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: No. You come to your queston. He is supposed to know.

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : वे जो कम्पनियां है ये...

श्री सभापति : आप सवाल कीजिये।

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : प्रश्न में जिन दवाओं के नाम उल्लिखित हैं उन पर जो ओवर-इनवाइसिंग हो रही है, उसके लिए मंत्री महोदय क्या एक हाई पावर कमेटी बिठायेंगे जो इसकी जांच करें। यह जो रेवेन्यू इंटेलिजेंस की बात करते हैं, इसका रिपोर्ट तो कभी आयेगा ही नही तो क्या हाई पावर कमेटी से इसकी जांच करायेंगे जिससे डाइरेक्टर जनरल हेल्थ सर्विसेस जो आंकड़े इनके पास भेजते हैं, उनको मद्दे नजर रखते हुए क्या आप एक हाई पावर जांच का आश्वासन सदन को देंगे ?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, here, there should not be any beating about the bush. Since six months I am sitting here in both the Houses. A number of complaints are coming and I am asking the hon. Members to give specific information about specifie companies. (*Interruptions*).

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : सभापति महोदय, मैं आप का प्रोटेक्शन चाहता हूं। ये एक प्रश्न का भी जवाब नहीं दे रहे हैं।

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: There are a number of multinational companies. If the hon. Member can afford to give me specfiic information that such and such company has imported such and drug on such and such date, I will call for the information and I will definitely see to it that if it is proved, they are punished.

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : एक भी प्रश्न का जवाब नहीं देते हैं। इसको इनके ध्यान में कैसे लाया जाये, जब कि वे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं देते पत्र का जवाब नहीं देते।

श्री सभापति : पत्र का जवाब दे देंगे।

SHRI CHINTA MOAHN: I am requesting him to give specific information. He is not able to give me specific data.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says that he has written a letter to you and you have not even cared to reply.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, I have replied. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says he has replied.

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Sir, multinational companies such as HOECHST and ROUSSEL are importing Ceatoxifm Sodium at 1700 dollars per Kg. (CIF) and the same drug is imported by Indian companies at 1100 dollars. And another drug, Tolnaftate, is imported by multinational companies at the cost of Rs. 19,800/- and the same drug is imported by Indian companies at Rs. 4,000/-. Thus the country is losing foreign exchange due to over-incoiving and the consumer is paying ten time, more than the actual price. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether the Ministter is taking steps. to curb this anti-national activity. What are the details in respect of the two instances which I have mentioned.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, I will take the valuable suggestion of the hon. Member into account and I will examine it. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: She has said that this drug is imported at this price and others are importing it overinvoicing it (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Sir, I am complaining against three multinational companies who are importing drugs. The name of the drugs are Cefatoxin and Tolnafate which the Indian companies give at Rs. 4,000. The multinational companies import it at Rs. 19,800. (*Interruptions*).

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is the name of the drug?

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: The names of the drugs are Cefatoxin and Tolnafate.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, Cefatoxin drug is manufactured by a number of manufacturers. If the hon. Member is kind enough to give me the name of the manufacturer. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Sir, I am giving him the name of the manufacturers. (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Tolnafate is produced indigenously. It is sold at Rs. 4,000 by the indegenous companies whereas multinational companies import it at a cost of Rs. 19,800. I want to know specifically what the Government is doing to curb this anti-national activity by the multinational companies.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: I will call for the report. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN: I hope you have noted the hon. Member's question and you will take action and inform her accordingly.

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : स्पेसेफिक सवाल का स्पेसेफ़िक जवाब दीजिए। **(व्यवधान**

श्री रजनी रंजन साहू : सभापति महोदय मैं मंत्री महोदय को नाम दे दुं कम्पनियों के **(व्यवधान)**

श्री सभापति : आप तशरीफ रखिय।

श्री राम अवधेश सिंह : यह हमेश पलायनवादी जवाब दे रहे हैं **(व्यवधान**

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: there are some companies in India whi import cosmetic concentrate from the foreign principals as drug for medicin purpose and the same is being misuse for cosmetic purpose, thus evading cu toms and Central excise duty. May know from the hon. Minister as to ho many such cases have come to his notic and what safeguards will be taken b the Minister to see that this facilit is not misused in future?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: I reall do not remember this incident, Sir. will definitely check up with the depar ment and write to him.

Fishing vessels lying idle in Visakhapatnan

*304. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of deep-sea fishing vessels lying idle or sick in Visakhapatnam as on date;

(b) the number of fishing units based in Visakhapatnam which have applied for rehabilitation and other facilities for their revival;

(c) whether it is a fact that some vessels are lying idle for the last two fishing seasons;

(d) what is the approximate loss of foreign exchange due to such idling of vessels; and

(e) whether it is a factt that his Ministry's recommendations in this regard have not been accepted by SCICI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (e) Ten deep-set fishin gvessels are lying idle in Visakhapatnam at present.